



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ft. HOOD MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CHILD ENTICEMENT CHARGE

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that Marvin Levaughn pled guilty to charges stemming from his attempting to have sex with a child. He entered his plea today before United States District Court Judge Walter Smith. Sentencing is scheduled for May 23, 2007, where he faces a minimum ten years in federal prison.

"It's hard to believe that there are men in this world who prey upon children, but unfortunately it's true. We will aggressively prosecute anyone who tries to hurt our children," stated United States Attorney Johnny Sutton.

Had this case gone to trial, the government was prepared to prove that the attempted to engage in sexual activity with what he believed to be a child. In October 2006, an undercover officer with the Kemah Police Department accessed the Internet in an undercover capacity pursuant to an investigation regarding child pornography on the Internet. While in a chat room the undercover officer was contacted via Yahoo! instant messenger by an individual with the user name "assassin016." During the chat, the Defendant asked for a picture so the undercover agent sent a non-sexual image depicting a female. After receiving this picture, the Defendant stated that "she" actually looked sixteen despite the undercover agent telling the defendant she was thirteen. The Defendant then initiated a sexually explicit conversation and activated a live webcam feed which allowed the undercover officer to physically see the Defendant. The Defendant told the undercover officer that he wanted to perform various sex acts with her.

From October 25, 2006, to February 1, 2007, the Defendant and the undercover officer chatted numerous times via Yahoo! instant messenger. During these chats, the Defendant brought up the subject of the two meeting in person to have sex. During these chats, the Defendant acknowledges that their activity and any future sexual contact must be kept secret and that he could get into "big trouble."

Eventually the Defendant arranged to meet the undercover officer at a hotel in Belton, Texas in order to have sex. On February 1, 2007, in the early afternoon, the Defendant arrived at the hotel wearing military fatigues and carrying a white plastic bag. Agents approached the Defendant as he attempted to enter the hotel. The Defendant was arrested. Inside the white plastic bag, agents found chocolate, cigarettes, and a box of condoms.

This case is being prosecuted as part of the Department of Justice's Project Safe Childhood (PSC) initiative. PSC is a comprehensive initiative aimed at preventing the abuse and exploitation of children through the Internet or other distribution technology. PSC creates, on a national platform, locally designed partnerships of federal, state, and local law enforcement officers in each federal district to investigate and prosecute Internet-based crimes against children. In addition to integration of law enforcement at the district level, PSC also provides for effective participation of PSC partners in coordinated national child pornography initiatives as well as increased federal involvement in basic child pornography and enticement cases.

This case was investigated by the Kemah Police Department and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It is being prosecuted for the government by Assistant United States Attorney Greg Gloff.

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